concentrated retentate is diafiltered 12× against 1M [[NaCl]]NaCl and then [[lOX]]10× against DI water. It is further concentrated to approximately 0.2 L and collected.

Change(s) applied to document, /K.M.P./ 4/6/2011

Please replace paragraph [15] of the originally filed specification with the following:

The 300K retentate solution (ca 5 mg PS/mL) was adjusted to a final concentration of 2N NaOH. and placed in an oven set to 80° C. for 16-18 hrs. After the reaction mixture had cooled off to less than 50° C., it was diluted into 10 L of DI water. After concentration through a 30 kDa MWCO ~~Pellicon~~ PELLICON® membrane, the concentrated retentate was diafiltered 12 times against 1 M NaCl and then 10 times against DI water. It was further concentrated to approximately 0.2 L and collected.

Please replace paragraph [41] of the originally filed specification with the following:

The retentate solution was transferred to a teflon reaction and sodium acetetate (NaOAc) was added to a final concentration of 0.1 N. The reaction mixture was adjusted to pH5 using 6N HCl and placed in a water bath set to 7° C. It was shaken at 65 rpm until the polysaccharide reached a target MW of approximately 10-20 kDa as measured by Size Exclusion Chromatography Multi-Angle Laser Light Scatter (SEC-MALLS) using a Superose 12 (Pharmacia) column.

Please replace paragraph [43] of the originally filed specification with the following:

The pH of the solution was adjusted to 8 with 6N [[HCl]] HCl solution, and acetic anhydride was then added dropwise at room temperature to a final concentration of 0.8 M acetic anhydride. SN NaOH was used to keep the reaction mixture pH between 7 and 9. After completion of the